

**Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 23, 2004
Minutes**

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Call to order 9:18 a.m.

Roll Call

Dan Howard
Brian Mulvey
Carol Keiper
Rick Powers
Doreen Moser
Joe Smith
Tom Lambert
Rowena Forest

Approve Last Meeting's Minutes

Motion:

Joe Smith moves to *accept last meetings minutes (from 6/8/04)*
Tom Lambert seconds
All in Favor

Public Comment Period

Ruth Howell and Paul Chetirkin introduced themselves from the NMS Program

Carol announced that David Hyrenbach would like to speak about the Black Footed Albatross project – couldn't make it today, will perhaps speak at next meeting.

Managers Report - Dan Howard

Submersible cruise update: this year the cruise was bumped up to the first week of August from September. Lost three days, dove for five days, got 19 dives in. There was a focus on filming the first two days – photographer/filmmaker on-board. The photos and footage are to be used for creating a Sanctuary video for the exhibit in the Point Reyes National Seashore visitor center and also for general outreach and education.

This is the third year observations were completed along the fixed transects. There is now three years of habitat, fish and invertebrate information from ten transects on Cordell Bank. Dan covered the methods for selecting transects when on the cruises. It was a good year for rockfish recruitment. Ling cod and cow cod were seen.

Dozens of Pacific Giant Octopus were also seen, perhaps engaged in mating behavior – in open-bottom habitat. Rick Powers mentioned that the occurrence of octopus seems to fluctuate from year to year. Dan mentioned that Pacific Giant Octopus die after spawning. This may be supported by observed mating behavior in August of this year,

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and seeing lots of dead octopus on the late September cruises, in earlier years. Dan also mentioned two observations of a salmon shark on this cruise on the Bank above sandy habitat.

The video footage from this cruise is being post-processed.

Dan discussed Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's bill for expanding the CBNMS and GFNMS. Dan discussed the public hearing, which occurred in Santa Rosa. All council members reviewed a map of the proposed expansion. The greater body of the expansion will occur for GFNMS. Cordell Bank will expand to include Bodega Canyon. Dan discussed the fishing communities concern regarding this, and the governmental process that will occur. The Council discussed and raised questions regarding how the bill came about.

Dan and the Council discussed the grass roots community effort to spearhead this expansion, and the meetings in the Sonoma/Mendocino area regarding this. The bill will be introduced the first week in October. The push is to get it through during this Congress. Dan explained the differences between the Administrative vs Legislative process for creating Sanctuaries.

Brian asked if there are plans to use the CB ROV more as a supplement to lost submersible days, if other boats are available for research? Dan said not at this time, due to staffing shortage. Dan mentioned that through regionalization this may be able to occur through sharing vessels/equipment.

Council Member Updates

Joe Smith updated the Council regarding the CB SAC policy topic recommendations made to Dan Basta.

Carol Keiper brought up the November 22 deadline put forward by Basta/HQ regarding actions requested by Councils at the Feb meeting regarding the four policy topics chosen to be discussed at this meeting.

Dan Howard clarified what headquarters is requesting by way of preparedness/warning of the Council's intentions for actions regarding these. The group discussed if CB/Carol should put forth an action regarding these topics (aquaculture/bioprospecting and cruise ship discharge is on the list, and was proposed as policy topics by the CB SAC). Brian offered reference materials from his office for the Council regarding this research of these.

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The Council will give Carol input regarding bioprospecting/cruise ships recommendations by October 15, and a decision will be made as to how the CB Council will address the above topics at the Annual Chairs/Coordinators meeting.

Motion:

Joe Smith moves to *start future SAC meetings at 9:30 am, instead of 9:00*

Rick Powers seconds

All in favor

Carol Keiper updated the Council on a Research Advisory Panel (RAP) meeting she attended this summer in Half Moon Bay. The main purpose of the meeting was to allow the three Sanctuaries to give updates on research. Other groups then presented. The main focus was standardization and integration of many facets of research. This was followed by a discussion of the Monterey Bay (MB) RAP. The sentiment was that of dissatisfaction with the progress of the MB RAP, and the over-abundance of meetings for this. Dale Roberts and Carol then discussed how to develop a CB RAP, that could avoid the problems faced by the MB RAP.

Carol would like to come up with recommendations for the future SAC Chair/research seat, in order to form a RAP for Cordell Bank. Carol acknowledged Dan Cohen's recommendation to present our forming RAP at the Western Society of Naturalists Conference in Sonoma this November.

Tom Lambert updated the Council regarding the boundary expansion meeting with Lynn Woolsey. Tom noted there was tremendous support of the expansion at this meeting. Tom and Carol had drafted a statement to make at this hearing. It went through Dan Howard then to Dan Basta. Dan Basta felt it would be seen as lobbying by the Sanctuary and did not want a statement read. Tom wrote a letter as a private citizen. Tom read the list of groups and individuals present at the meeting. Dan added that the meeting was headed by a panel which included Ed Ueber, etc. Tom presented the group with a written overview of the boundary expansion. Tom covered possible outcomes and benefits if the bill passed.

Rick Powers and Dan H discussed the public meetings regarding the designation of Marine Protected Areas on the West Coast.

Discussion followed regarding deep canyon habitat biology, and the importance of protecting Bodega Canyon as a part of Cordell Bank NMS expansion. Dan Howard commented that the boundary expansion will not do any good without additional resources. It will overtax our existing staff and existing mandates. GFNMS is in the same position.

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Break 11:15-11:30

**Discussion re Options for the CB Case Study Presentation at the Annual Chairs-
Coordinators Meeting, Feb 2005 – Carol Keiper and Dan Howard**

Dan Howard introduced possible presentation topics for the annual meeting:
In regards to finishing the main body of the work on the Management Plan Review (MPR), where are we now as a Council? And how to proceed in the future?
How CBNMS working groups dealt with the krill fisheries issue at Cordell Bank.

Carol recommended research projects that have moved forward due to MPR working group, and the start of our monitoring program.

Doreen recommended a presentation examining the pros and cons of education and outreach of an off-shore Sanctuary.

A list of accomplishments that came out of the CB MPR working groups, and contributions this made to Dan Howard's Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

Dan and Carol will work together to put-together this presentation in December.

CB SAC Charter Updates – Dan Howard

Dan Howard explained the CB SAC Charter updates made. Dan explained that all seats are up, and how CB will stagger future seats to avoid all terminating at once. All current members are eligible to reapply. Alternates will match the term limit of the seat-holder.

Discussion followed regarding options for alternates/seats/chair staggering possibilities.

Dan noted the addition of the following government seats to the SAC:

US Coast Guard
MBNMS Manager
CINMS Manager

Discussion followed regarding the benefits of having local Coast Guard on the Council. Dan then discussed the addition of other West Coast Sanctuary managers to the CB Council.

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Lunch 12:30-1:15

Discussion of Next Steps for the CB SAC – Dan Howard

Dan Howard covered what the CB SAC is, has contributed thus far, and raised the question of how to function as an advisory body in the future, and the need for comprehensive constituent outreach and involvement. Dan then opened the floor to discussion regarding these topics, and opinions regarding the functioning of the Council.

The group discussed how to outreach to constituents effectively - and the pros and cons of widespread public involvement.

Dan asked if having concrete projects to work on with goals will help guide the council. Brian brought up that there could be projects drawing from each seat, going, and being reported on at each meeting. Discussion followed regarding projects and issues other Sanctuaries are dealing with. Tom Lambert suggested approaching pending or emerging issues such as fisheries and aquaculture issues.

Carol Keiper feels the SAC is in the informational gathering stage, and there should be an educational component for the SAC to all projects and goals tackled.

Discussion ensued regarding how the SAC could proceed with a long-term plan. The group discussed the possibility of a retreat with the former and new SAC members in March, 2005 to educate new members and formulate a one year plan. Topics may be identified, a speaker could be invited, etc.

Dan addressed the possibility of having a facilitator to lead the one-day retreat. The group decided against having a facilitator.

Announcements

Doreen announced Oceanfest which will be October 9 at Crissy Field, SF

Lecture Series: This Saturday PRNSA Field Seminar Lecture of CBNMS
Mary Yocklavich October 28 at the Bodega Marine Lab

CB Anniversary Event Saturday October 2 – and Dan reviewed the agenda for the day.

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Review of December Agenda Suggestions

Rowena reviewed the Council's suggestions for the December SAC meeting agenda.

Motion:

Doreen Moser *motioned to adjourn*

Joe Smith seconded

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm